



GLOBAL AIDS PROGRAM

WHAT IS THE PUBLIC HEALTH PROBLEM?

- Of the 42 million adults and children who were living with HIV/AIDS at the end of 2002, 95% lived in developing countries – and more than 90% were estimated to live in a country served by CDC's Global AIDS Program (GAP). In 2002, an estimated 5 million people were newly infected with HIV, and 3.1 million died of AIDS.
- Worldwide, 70% of those living with HIV/AIDS live in Sub-Saharan Africa; in 2002, 77% of all AIDS deaths were in this region.

WHAT HAS CDC ACCOMPLISHED?

CDC works collaboratively with other U.S. government agencies, including the U.S. Agency for International Development (USAID); international health and economic organizations such as WHO, UNAIDS, UNICEF, and the World Bank; non-governmental organizations; and host country governments to mitigate the devastating effects of HIV/AIDS. In 2003, CDC's **Global AIDS Program (GAP)** (<http://www.cdc.gov/nchstp/od/gap/default.htm>) works in 25 countries in sub-Saharan Africa, Asia, Latin America, and the Caribbean. GAP has three primary program foci: (1) infrastructure and capacity development – including surveillance, laboratory support, information systems, monitoring and evaluation; (2) primary prevention – including voluntary counseling and testing (VCT), preventing mother-to-child transmission (PMTCT), and public-private partnerships; and (3) care and treatment – including treatment and care of tuberculosis and opportunistic infections, appropriate provision of antiretroviral drugs, and palliative care.

Example of program in action: **Botswana** has been one of the countries hardest hit by the HIV pandemic (<http://www.cdc.gov/nchstp/od/gap/countries/botswana.htm>), with adult seroprevalence at approximately 40%. In the past year, CDC has provided funding and assistance to support 10 voluntary HIV counseling and testing sites. CDC also supports PMTCT activities through the training of health workers, provision of technical assistance to strengthen the counseling, testing, treatment, and public education, and addition of 200 counseling and education units to prenatal clinics throughout Botswana. This year, CDC in collaboration with local partners launched a radio series, focusing on culturally specific AIDS-related issues. Finally, CDC, through the Division of TB Elimination, assisted in the piloting of an isoniazid (IPT) program and is working with the government to expand nationwide to prevent TB, the leading cause of AIDS-related deaths.

WHAT ARE THE NEXT STEPS?

CDC will continue to collaborate with multiple partners to provide technical assistance through direct support to country programs worldwide. In addition, CDC will support regional programs to serve a greater number of countries. CDC will expand HIV prevention programs, capacity building activities, and care and treatment programs in all countries where it has established a presence and will extend activities to additional areas at high risk for severe HIV epidemics.

For more information on this and other CDC programs, visit www.cdc.gov/programs.

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